

# Martin Luther King Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On . . . Not A Day Off

In 1986, President Ronald Reagan declared the third Monday in January a federal legal holiday commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. The Corporation for National & Community Service website reminds us that "the King Day of Service is a way to transform Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and teachings into community service that helps solve social problems. That service may meet a tangible need, such as fixing up a school or senior center, or it may meet a need of the spirit, such as building a sense of community or mutual responsibility. On this day, Americans of every age and background celebrate Dr. King through service projects that:

- Strengthen Communities
   Dr. King recognized the power of service to strengthen communities and achieve common goals.
- Empower Individuals
   Dr. King believed each individual possessed the power to lift himself or herself up no matter what his or her circumstances – rich or poor, black or white, man or woman.
- Bridge Barriers
   In his fight for civil rights, Dr. King inspired Americans to think beyond themselves, look past differences, and work toward equality.

Excerpted from: <a href="http://www.mlkday.org/whyserve/index.html">http://www.mlkday.org/whyserve/index.html</a>

## Websites You May Want to Visit

The Seattle Times Martin Luther King Jr & the Civil Rights Movement <a href="http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/mlk/">http://seattletimes.nwsource.com/mlk/</a>

Infoplease - Martin Luther King Day <a href="http://www.infoplease.com/spot/mlkjrday1.html">http://www.infoplease.com/spot/mlkjrday1.html</a>

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project at Stanford University <a href="http://www.stanford.edu/group/King/">http://www.stanford.edu/group/King/</a>

**Books You May Want to Read** (Hint: go to the TEL Database, **What Do I Read Next** and choose to do a Custom Search. Under Subject, choose **Civil Rights Movement** or input the Character Name **Martin Luther King** and hit Search.)

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* by David A. Adler; illustrated by Colin Bootman Tells the story of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., his life, accomplishments in the civil rights movement, and his impact on American history

*I have a dream: the life and words of Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Jim Haskins



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A biography of the Baptist minister who spent much of his life pursuing his dream of equal treatment for fellow African Americans and for all people

#### *The Civil Rights Movement* by Rose Venable

Discusses the Civil Rights Movement in the United States, including information about various court cases, leaders of the movement such as Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Medgar Evers, and the March on Washington to show support for the movement

Free at last: a history of the Civil Rights Movement and those who died in the struggle by Sara Bullard; introduction by Julian Bond

An illustrated history of the civil rights movement, including a timeline and profiles of forty people who gave their lives in the movement

# To Make January 17 A Day On...Not A Day Off, you may want to check out the following activities:

TN Observances - choose TN http://www.king-raleigh.org/natlevent/body.cfm

## Other Civil Rights Activists You May Want to Study:

Rosa Parks Thurgood Marshall

The Little Rock Nine Medgar Evers

Harry T. Moore Fannie Lou Hamer

Coretta Scott King Jesse Jackson

## To Find More about MLK Jr and the Civil Rights Movement

In TEL, go to **Kids InfoBits** or **Junior Edition - K12** and use the following search strategies:

Civil Rights Civil Rights Law Civil Rights Demonstrations

Civil Rights Demonstrations Civil Rights Activists Martin Luther King Jr

Civil Rights Act of 1964 MLK Civil Rights Movement

Civil Disobedience Sit-in Jim Crow Law